



**In 2018**

Several changes to procedures and systems were implemented prior to the enactment of the **Adoption (Amendment) Act 2017**



The Authority ensured compliance with **GDPR** 

The majority (35) of the domestic adoptions were **stepfamily adoptions** 

The Authority granted **72 domestic adoptions**

The number of adoption orders made in respect of children who had been in long-term foster care increased to **25 in 2018** from **21 in 2017**. 

Of the balance, **7** were adoptions of **infants** placed for adoption in Ireland 

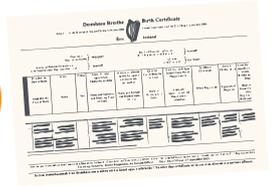
The Authority continued its oversight of **intercountry adoptions**, which numbered

**41** 

A total of **313 entries** was made in the **Register of Intercountry Adoptions** in respect of all relevant sections of the Adoption Act 2010

The Authority received **121 requests for birth certificate releases**

**43 birth certificates** were released



The Authority processed **639 applications** to the **national adoption contact register** 

**105 matches** between adopted persons and birth relatives were made 

Since 2005, **70%** of those joining an adoption contact register are **adoptees** and **30%** are **relatives** 

Countries that Ireland links with are **Bulgaria, China, Haiti, India, Philippines, Poland, Thailand, USA, Vietnam**



**Matches by year 2015-2018**

2015	2016	2017	2018
92	102	121	105

The Authority hosted a visit by a delegation from **Vietnam's Department of Adoption-Ministry of Justice**, which **Minister Katherine Zappone** attended 

The Authority continues to prioritise **hearing the voice of the child** in all adoption related matters 

**23 Board meetings** held in 2018 

The Board held its **annual Circuit meeting** in **Waterford** 

Committees of the Board = **Risk and Audit Committee** and **Research Subcommittee**

The social work team received **206 calls** to the duty social work phone line 

Development of AAI **website** continued with a **substantial new young person's section** added **Targeted Q&A section**, **information leaflets** for young people and **two video clips** published. 

**25 Parliamentary Questions** answered  
**20 requests** under the **Freedom of Information Acts** received  
**15 Data Protection requests** received 

The Authority acknowledges the continued support and assistance of the **Minister for Children and Youth Affairs** and the staff of the Department 